

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 26

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23—Relative to Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 24, 2007.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 23, Cox. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of September 2007 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and treatment of prostate cancer.

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates one in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime and there will be approximately 218,890 new cases of the disease in the United States in the current year, resulting in nearly 27,050 deaths; and

WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in almost all race and ethnic groups and African-American men are 50 percent more likely to develop this disease than any other group of men; and

WHEREAS, In California, approximately 18,865 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and each day more than eight California men will die from this disease; and

WHEREAS, While prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer deaths in men, little is known about this disease, and there are usually no symptoms in the early stages; and

WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 33 percent when the disease spreads to the other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, Early detection is the key to survival and the American Cancer Society recommends that every man should be offered an annual prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test and digital examination determined by his age and risk factor; and

WHEREAS, Men who have several close relatives who were diagnosed with prostate cancer at an early age could begin their testing at 40 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Men who have a father, son, or brother who had prostate cancer before 65 years of age and African-Americans should begin their testing at 45 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Other men who have a life expectancy of at least 10 more years should begin their testing at 50 years of age; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness about the importance of early detection and treatment of prostate cancer; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature designates the month of September 2007 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State of California and that public officials and the citizens of California are encouraged to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.